HONORING CORPORAL TONY BARR, USMC, ON HIS SAFE RETURN HOME FROM IRAQ

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today, it is with great pride and patriotism that I rise to welcome home one of our nation's great heroes, Corporal Tony Barr.

Corporal Barr served in the First Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, Fifth Marines, Weapons Company, CART Platoon. Cpl. Barr was originally scheduled to be discharged from the Marine Corps on February 28, 2003, but was given orders for Iraq the week before his discharge. Cpl. Barr could have chosen to avoid going to Iraq because he is the only male Barr currently living, but he instead, chose to stay with his fellow Marines and was deployed to Iraq.

Cpl. Barr's division suffered the first casualty of the war as they traveled from Kuwait to Baghdad. After Baghdad, Cpl. Barr's Division traveled to Tikrit which I am told is the furthest any Marine Division has ever traveled into the interior of an enemy country. Once his Division left Tikrit, they traveled south to Diwaniyeh, a Baath Party stronghold, to set up a compound to train local Iraqis to become police. Most of Cpl. Barr's unit still remains in Diwaniyeh today.

While we celebrate the safe return of Corporal Tony Barr to his home in Allen Park, Michigan, we continue to pray for the safety of all of our sons and daughters who are still proudly serving the United States in the newly liberated Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in extending the appreciation of the U.S. House of Representatives to Corporal Tony Barr, USMC, for his brave and outstanding service to the United States of America and join me in praying for the safe return of all of our troops who are in harm's way in Iraq, Afghanistan, and all other parts of the world.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY PREITE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize Anthony Preite for the integral role that he has played in the economic development of the Western United States. Anthony's long and distinguished career has made an indelible mark upon the State of Colorado and the Western United States. In recognition of his widely renowned public service, he was recently recognized with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Award, in addition to being selected as the Outstanding Fifty State U.S.D.A. Director.

Anthony began his career in Montana as a teacher and coach after graduating from Northern Montana College in 1963. In 1968, Anthony accepted a position as Community Development Specialist, where his responsibilities included implementing an economic development plan for a portion of north central Montana. He proceeded to serve as Special

Project Director of the Economic Development Administration for the U.S. Department of Commerce for much of the Western United States. Many of Anthony's initiatives resulted in infrastructure improvements and the creation of hundreds of job opportunities.

Fortunately, Anthony has not gone unrecognized throughout his life. The Denver Regional Office of the Economic Development Administration selected Anthony as the 1993 winner of the Forrest Koch Award for Excellence in Economic Development. Subsequently, President Clinton appointed Anthony as the State Director of Montana. Farmers Home Administration in 1993. In his role as Head of Rural Development, Anthony oversaw Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and Rural Utilities Services. He was selected to serve as the Denver Regional Office Director for the Economic Development Administration in December of 1999 and currently oversees activities in ten different states as the Regional Director.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Anthony Preite before this body of Congress and this nation. His dynamic career and selfless public service have advanced the well-being of thousands of Americans through economic development programs and initiatives. I congratulate Anthony on the awards that have been bestowed upon him and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINIOS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2003, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 357, the Ackerman-LaTourette amendment to the Agriculture Appropriations bill which would require that the USDA expend no funds to approve meat from downed animals—animals that are too sick to walk or stand—for food. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES E. ROGERS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel James E. (Jim) Rogers for his brave and unselfish service as Commander of the Division Support Command of the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles. Jim's great work in the 101st Airborne during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom helped to lift the dark threat that terrorist supporting regimes posed to the citizens of the United States and the world.

Through Jim's work and leadership, and that of thousands of other U.S. soldiers, the United States and the Coalition of the Willing brought liberty to the oppressed and brutalized people of Iraq and Afghanistan. Without a doubt, the world can rest easier knowing that these brutal regimes have been removed from power. The

swift and decisive removal of the Iraqi regime and the Taliban could not have been accomplished without Jim and the fine men and women of the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles.

Jim was commissioned in the ordnance corps in June of 1979 upon his graduation from the U.S. Military Academy. His military education also includes the Ordnance Officer Basic and Advance courses, Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College. Jim also holds a Masters Degree in industrial and operations engineering from the University of Michigan.

Over the past 24 years, Colonel Rogers has served the army in a number of posts and locations around the world. Jim's service has taken him to assignments with the 1st Infantry Division at Ft. Riley, Kansas; the 782nd Maintenance Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Executive Officer for Armored Systems Modernization in Warren, Michigan, the 801st Main Support Battalion at Fort Campbell, KY; the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Casey, Korea; the 82nd Forward Support Battalion at Fort Bragg; and the U.S. Army Total Personnel Command in Alexandria, Virginia. Jim currently serves as the Division Support Commander for the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell.

Jim's fine service to his country has seen him recognized with many awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe, and the Order of St. Michael.

Jim has repeatedly stood for the defense of this nation, her citizens and their freedom. His devotion and commitment to the defense of freedom and liberty around the world epitomizes the words Soldier, Patriot, and American. Jim is a role model for his four children, and a devoted husband to his wife Reba.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend the gratitude of myself and the entire nation to Colonel Rogers for his service to the United States and his hard work in defense of freedom and liberty around the world. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jim's efforts and wishing him well in his new assignment at CENTCOM in Tampa, Florida.

HONORING BARBARA ACOSTA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a selfless community servant and dedicated businesswoman from my district, Barbara Acosta of Durango, Colorado. An active member of the Durango community, Barbara is this year's recipient of the 2002 Athena Award, presented by the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association. I would like to join with the Durango community in honoring Barbara's commitment and recognizing this distinct honor.

The Athena Award is a unique tribute, honoring women who demonstrate excellence and creativity in business, while providing selfless